



IDAHO POTATOES

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IDAHO RUSSET POTATO SIZE AND GRADE SUMMARY - 2000 CROP

The statistics in this publication were obtained from the 2000 Potato Objective Yield Survey. The Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service would like to thank all growers who allowed the enumerators to dig samples in their fields. Without the voluntary cooperation of the farmers themselves, obtaining valid and timely agricultural statistics would be much more difficult. Because the samples of potatoes were dug by hand, the size and grade statistics in this document do not reflect harvesting or handling damage.

The survey results showed an increase in the percentage of Russet potatoes that were ten ounces or larger. For the 2000 crop, 38.9 percent of the potatoes were at least ten ounces, while 26.3 percent reached that size in 1999. Of the Russet potatoes in the 2000 sample, 83.0 percent met the 2.0 inch or 4 oz. minimum size and grade requirements for U.S. No. 1 potatoes. Processing grade, with a 1.5 inch minimum, accounted for 16.0 percent of the 2000 crop.

PROCEDURE

The 2000 Potato Objective Yield Survey consisted of 296 samples located throughout Idaho in fields selected in an unbiased and random manner. The selection of sample fields was based on all known potato acreage planted in 2000, with each acre having an equal chance of being chosen. As a result, growers with large acreages were more likely to be selected to participate in this survey. Several sample fields with varieties other than Russet were selected, but only the reports with Russet potatoes were used to compile the data in Tables 1 and 2. For each sample field, two plots were systematically located using computer generated random numbers. Each plot consisted of a twenty-foot section of a row. Digging of all samples occurred immediately preceding harvest or when all vines had died and growth of the tubers was no longer possible. Three hills of potatoes from each twenty-foot row section were carefully dug, counted, weighed, and then graded according to U.S.D.A. standards. Potatoes less than 1.5 inches in diameter were excluded from this procedure. To measure the harvest loss, post-harvest gleanings were taken for every fourth sample. The gleaning area consisted of two 3-by-6-foot plots, located five paces and five row space equivalents beyond the plots where the potato hills were dug. All potatoes and potato pieces, except whole potatoes under 1.5 inches in diameter, were collected, weighed, and graded. Geographic distribution of the 2000 usable sample fields is shown in the following table.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>COUNTIES</u>	<u>NO. OF SAMPLE PLOTS</u>
Southwest	Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington	36
Southcentral	Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka & Twin Falls	66
Eastern	Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida & Power	160
Eastern Seed Counties	Butte, Caribou, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Lemhi & Teton	34
IDAHO TOTAL		296

TABLE 1-- IDAHO RUSSET POTATOES: SIZE (NET WEIGHT BASIS) AND GRADE -- 2000 CROP ^{1/}

AREA AND GRADE	1 1/2" - 1 5/8"	1 5/8" - 1 7/8"	1 7/8" - 2"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 oz	7-8 oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
	Percentages (%)													
SOUTHCENTRAL COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	16.7	6.6	6.7	6.2	7.4	6.8	5.4	4.2	4.6	22.4	87.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	0.7	2.8	1.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2	4.4	12.6
Other	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.4
TOTAL	0.7	2.8	1.9	17.2	6.8	7.0	6.5	7.7	7.0	6.0	4.6	4.9	26.9	100.0
EASTERN COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	22.8	7.7	8.4	7.4	5.7	5.7	4.6	2.7	3.1	13.3	81.4
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.6	4.9	3.6	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	3.5	17.2
Other	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	1.4
TOTAL	1.7	5.0	3.7	24.1	8.2	8.9	7.8	6.1	6.2	5.0	2.9	3.5	16.9	100.0
EASTERN SEED COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	27.5	10.0	8.3	6.9	4.4	5.2	3.4	2.5	1.1	12.0	81.3
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	2.2	7.2	4.8	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.2	-	1.1	18.2
Other	-	0.1	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	0.5
TOTAL	2.2	7.3	4.8	28.2	10.3	8.5	7.5	4.6	5.7	3.8	2.7	1.3	13.1	100.0
TOTAL OTHER COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	21.6	7.7	7.9	7.0	6.0	6.0	4.7	3.1	3.3	15.7	83.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.4	4.5	3.3	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	3.5	16.0
Other	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	-	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	1.0
TOTAL	1.5	4.6	3.4	22.6	8.0	8.3	7.4	6.4	6.4	5.2	3.3	3.6	19.3	100.0
10 SOUTHWEST COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	12.9	6.4	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.8	4.8	4.1	4.7	26.0	83.9
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	0.9	2.9	2.6	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	4.8	15.3
Other	-	-	-	0.1	0.3	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.8
TOTAL	0.9	2.9	2.6	13.8	7.1	6.4	6.3	6.9	7.3	5.3	4.5	5.0	31.0	100.0
STATE														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	21.0	7.6	7.8	6.9	6.0	6.0	4.7	3.2	3.4	16.4	83.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.4	4.4	3.2	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	3.6	16.0
Other	-	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	1.0
TOTAL	1.4	4.5	3.3	22.0	8.0	8.2	7.3	6.4	6.4	5.2	3.5	3.7	20.1	100.0

1/ Percentages shown adjusted to allow for harvesting loss. 2/ 2" or 4-oz. minimum.

TABLE 2 -- IDAHO RUSSET POTATOES: SIZE (NET WEIGHT BASIS) AND GRADE -- 1999 CROP ^{1/}

AREA AND GRADE	1 1/2" 1 5/8"	1 5/8" 1 7/8"	1 7/8" 2"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 oz	7-8 oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
	Percentages (%)													
SOUTHCENTRAL COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	27.3	11.4	9.6	7.9	6.8	5.3	4.4	1.9	2.7	8.5	85.8
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.7	5.6	3.8	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	-	0.1	1.2	13.8
Other	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	0.1	0.4
TOTAL	1.7	5.6	3.8	27.9	11.5	9.8	8.1	6.9	5.6	4.6	1.9	2.8	9.8	100.0
EASTERN COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	28.8	10.4	8.6	6.1	5.0	4.2	3.9	3.1	2.2	8.0	80.3
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.6	6.2	4.9	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.5	3.7	19.6
Other	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1
TOTAL	1.6	6.2	4.9	29.8	10.6	8.9	6.5	5.1	4.5	4.0	3.5	2.7	11.7	100.0
EASTERN SEED COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	31.6	10.2	8.5	6.5	5.9	3.5	2.5	3.3	1.8	6.3	80.1
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	2.1	6.9	5.4	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	-	0.2	2.6	19.5
Other	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4
TOTAL	2.1	7.0	5.5	32.6	10.4	8.6	6.8	6.2	3.9	2.7	3.3	2.0	8.9	100.0
TOTAL OTHER COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	28.7	10.8	9.0	6.9	5.8	4.5	3.9	2.7	2.3	7.9	82.5
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.7	6.1	4.5	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	2.5	17.2
Other	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.3
TOTAL	1.7	6.2	4.6	29.5	10.9	9.2	7.2	6.0	4.8	4.0	2.9	2.6	10.4	100.0
10 SOUTHWEST COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	19.2	7.9	8.6	6.7	7.0	6.2	6.0	5.6	3.1	15.5	85.8
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.4	3.4	3.0	0.3	-	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.5	-	-	4.6	14.0
Other	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	0.2
TOTAL	1.4	3.5	3.0	19.5	7.9	8.7	6.9	7.5	6.3	6.5	5.6	3.1	20.1	100.0
STATE														
U.S. No. 1 ^{2/}	-	-	-	27.8	10.5	8.9	6.9	5.9	4.6	4.1	2.9	2.4	8.6	82.6
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.7	5.9	4.4	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	2.8	17.1
Other	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.3
TOTAL	1.7	5.9	4.4	28.6	10.7	9.1	7.2	6.1	4.9	4.2	3.1	2.7	11.4	100.0

1/ Percentages shown adjusted to allow for harvesting loss. 2/ 2" or 4-oz. minimum.

**TABLE 3 - ALL POTATOES: AVERAGE NUMBER OF TUBERS PER HILL & HILLS PER ACRE
1999 & 2000 CROPS**

AREA	NUMBER OF SAMPLES		AVERAGE NUMBER OF TUBERS PER HILL		AVERAGE NUMBER OF HILLS PER ACRE	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
Southwest	33	36	8.5	8.5	12,684	11,879
Southcentral	84	66	9.3	7.8	12,510	12,754
Eastern	126	160	8.1	8.2	12,088	11,796
Seed Co.'s	51	34	9.3	8.4	11,928	12,595
STATE	294	296	8.7	8.2	12,229	12,129

TABLE 4 - ALL POTATOES: QUANTITY LEFT IN FIELD AFTER HARVEST - 1999 & 2000 CROPS

AREA	1999 CROP		2000 CROP	
	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	CWT. PER ACRE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	CWT. PER ACRE
Southwest	5	13	9	7
Southcentral	16	35	18	24
Eastern	36	29	37	26
Seed Co.'s	13	23	9	10
STATE	70	32	73	28

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